

deep and crowded up close under the collar of the lateral teeth. Soft parts unknown.

Dimensions: Length 51 mm., altitude 28 mm., diameter 21 mm.

Habitat: Near Seminole Springs, 15 miles southeast of Eustis, Florida. Ex. Coll. Walter F. Webb, Rochester, N. Y.

Observations: This unique Florida mussel must be placed in the *Elliptio* division, probably best as a subgenus, as it is unusually arched dorsally and sculptured at beaks. One dozen specimens have been carefully compared and it is not possible to make any decision as to its relationship. Perhaps it belongs in the *dorsatus* group.

We take peculiar pleasure in naming this shell in honor of the gracious wife of Walter F. Webb, who for more than forty years has been of inestimable help in his conchological work. It was collected by T. H. Van Hyning.

Type in the U. S. National Museum, No. 425354; paratypes with the following museums: The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, No. 162516; Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Boston, Mass.; Buffalo Museum of Natural History, and collection of Walter F. Webb, Rochester, N. Y.

BOSTON MALACOLOGICAL CLUB

The Boston Malacological Club held its regular meetings during the season of 1933-'34, on the first Tuesday evening of each month, from October to May, inclusive, in the Library of the Boston Society of Natural History.

The first meeting was given to experiences in collecting during the past summer. Among these, Mr. William J. Clench described covering some 5,000 miles in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi; and a 700-mile cruise along the Florida coast, the previous April. Mr. S. N. F. Sanford told of collecting on the New England beaches, and emphasized the fact that after a heavy storm more is to be found by waiting one or two days than by collecting directly the storm is over. Prof. Balch reported finding many nudibranchs, including one new species, at Cranberry Island, near Mt. Desert, Maine.

In November the Club heard a talk on "A Naturalist's Impressions of Australia" by Dr. W. E. Schevill, who had lately spent some months there, in a successful quest for fossils. While he touched only indirectly on mollusks, he described vividly the topography, flora and fauna of this largest of the world's islands. Fine lantern slides added to the interest of his talk.

Dr. Charles H. Blake, of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, spoke in December, his topic being "The Eggs of Fresh-water Snails," illustrated by slides from his drawings made in the laboratory, where observation of the eggs and the hatching of the young snails could be conducted to the best advantage.

In January Dr. Joseph C. Bequaert, President of the club, told of visits to malacological collections in England, France, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Germany and Sweden. The February meeting was announced as a symposium on the "Care and Arrangement of Conchological Collections." An interesting fact called to the attention of the members was that oak, used for cabinets, gives off an acid which in the course of time, coats the shells with an unsightly film which destroys their color and polish.

At the March meeting Mr. Henry D. Russell spoke on "Collecting in Bermuda," telling of both recent and fossil mollusks to be found there, and describing the volcanic origin of the islands, their soil, and their flora.

In April, Dr. Bequaert again addressed the club, this time on "A New Manual of Conchology," the monumental work by Dr. Johannes Thiele, now being published in Berlin. He also touched upon other works on conchology, and gave it as his opinion that in classifying and naming species, more attention should be paid to the shell itself, and less to minute differences in the internal structure of the animal, which he considered had been carried to undue excess during recent years.

At the meeting in May, Mr. Edward M. Howland gave his experiences in collecting in the West Indies, and at Sanibel Island, Florida, and showed an interesting series of shells from these places.

At nearly every meeting, other topics, in addition to those

announced, came up for informal discussion, space permitting the mention of only a few, as the ship-worm and its destructive activities, the disappearance of the eel-grass from New England waters, and the increasing distribution on this side of the Atlantic of *Helix nemoralis*.

At the May meeting the following officers were elected for the coming year:

President	CHARLES H. BLAKE
Vice-president	AUSTIN W. CHEEVER
Conchological Recorder	S. N. F. SANFORD
Secretary and Treasurer	THEODORA WILLARD
Executive Committee	MILDRED SEYMOUR
	WILLIAM J. CLENCH

On May 26, the club held its annual field meeting. This was at Marion, Massachusetts, by invitation of Mr. Howland. Twenty-three intrepid members were not deterred by unpromising weather, and in spite of grey skies and a temperature of only 50°, motored to Marion, to be met there by our host. After spending several hours on the beach, returning with many treasures filling bags and pockets, the members drove to his house, where they were welcomed by Mrs. Howland. Ample justice was done to a delicious luncheon, and then followed an inspection of Mr. Howland's collection of shells, and it was not until mid-afternoon that they started on the homeward drive, all expressing the conviction that it had been the most delightful field meeting ever held by the club.—THEODORA WILLARD, *Secretary*.

CHARLES CURRY ALLEN

Charles Curry Allen, one of the best known and ablest naturalists in the State of Florida, died at his home in St. Petersburg, April 27.

Born in Morrison, Ill., in 1862, where at the age of 10 years he took an interest in fossil shells and the bones of prehistoric animals he gathered together an interesting collection.